



NEW APPLICATION

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Town of S

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Public Works Department



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2009 JUN -2 A 10: 12

May 26, 2009

ACC CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission  
DOCKETED

JUN -2 2009

Chris Watson  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
Railroad Safety Section  
2200 N. Central Ave, Suite #300  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

DOCKETED BY	nr
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Re: Arizona Corporation Commission Application for Rail Crossing Improvements  
Rancho Sahuarita Blvd (Greenough Ranch Rd) at Pima Mine Road  
DOT #742177R  
Sahuarita Project # 2044000 07P03  
Psomas Project #7SAH084505

RR-03639A-09-0282

Mr. Watson:

This letter is submitted to the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) as an application to request an upgrade to an existing Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing in the Town of Sahuarita. The paragraphs below provide an explanation and justification for the project. The attached exhibits further illustrate project features.

#### Location of Crossing

The crossing is located in Township 16S, Range 13E, Section 36, Gila and Salt River Meridian in the Town of Sahuarita, Arizona. The rail line is a spur that serves the Asarco Mission Mine and connects to UPRR's Nogales line. The DOT crossing number is 742177R. A field meeting was held on May 2, 2007 with the ACC (Brian Lehman), UPRR, the Town of Sahuarita, and Psomas (the Town's consultant) to discuss the project.

#### Why the Crossing is Needed

Continued use of the crossing is needed to provide access to Pima Mine Road and I-19 towards Tucson for over 8,000 vehicles per day. Without the crossing many residents would be required to make a detour of more than 5 miles to access I-19, as there are no other rail crossings between I-19 and the Santa Cruz River. This project provides traffic signal and roadway widening improvements aimed at improving traffic safety.

#### Why the Existing Crossing Cannot be Grade Separated

Because of the proximity of the crossing to the intersection with Pima Mine Road, elevating Rancho Sahuarita Boulevard would require also elevating Pima Mine Road. This would likely require construction and permanent impacts within the San Xavier District of the Tohono

Oóddham Nation. In addition, an elevated intersection would affect view sheds for landowners south of the railroad. Further, train volumes at this location are low (3 or less trains per day) and train operating speeds are also very low. Finally, none of the conditions in the FHWA Grade Separation Guidelines are met.

**Types of Warning Devices to be Installed**

The improved crossing will add flasher signals and gates on the median and edge of the roadway, a cantilever for the northbound direction, railroad pavement markings and crossing signs, and simultaneous pre-emption with the signal and pre-signal to be installed at Pima Mine Road.

**Types of Warning Devices Currently Installed**

The existing crossing has railroad pavement markings and crossing signs, but no flasher signals, gates or cantilevers.

**Who will Maintain the Crossing Warning Devices**

UPRR will own and maintain the physical elements of the crossing (crossing surface, gates, flashers). The Town of Sahuarita will maintain the approaching surface, signing and pavement markings on the road approaches and the traffic signal at the intersection,

**Who is Funding the Project**

The project is funded by the Town of Sahuarita.

We look forward to working with UPRR and the ACC on this important safety project. The agreement between the Town and UPRR is currently being finalized and will be provided prior to the hearing for the project. If you have any questions regarding this application please contact Rick Robinson at (520) 399-3339, or via email at [rrobinson@ci.sahuarita.az.us](mailto:rrobinson@ci.sahuarita.az.us).

Sincerely,



Farhad Moghimi, P.E.  
Public Works Director  
Town of Sahuarita

cc. Aziz Aman – Union Pacific Railroad  
Rick Robinson – Town of Sahuarita  
Alejandro Angel - Psomas

Attachments: Exhibit of Roadway Signing and Marking Improvements  
Exhibit of Railroad Traffic Control Improvements  
Correspondence regarding the status of the UPRR/Sahuarita Agreement



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1320' = 25+5' SEC. B 30 M.P.H.

TO MAINLINE

1320' = 25+5' SEC. B 30 M.P.H.

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**Alejandro Angel**

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**From:** Brian Lehman [BLEhman@azcc.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2009 8:27 AM  
**To:** AAMAN@up.com; Alejandro Angel  
**Cc:** Rick Robinson; Chris Watson  
**Subject:** RE: Sahuarita Blvd, Agreement and ACC. RR MP 1000.86, AS & R Main Lead, Sahuarita AZ. DOT 742 177R

Aziz,

Typically the agreement is part of the application, but there is nothing in regulation that says you can't submit the application before the agreement is finalized. If you are confident that there will be no issues then go ahead with the application to create a docket and then the agreement can be submitted to the docket when finalized. Keep in mind, that the Hearing Division will schedule a hearing shortly after the docket is opened, probably within two weeks. However, the hearing itself could be a month or more out when the date is set. The agreement should be in docket before the hearing takes place or else the ALJ may not go forward with the hearing.

Brian H. Lehman  
Supervisor of Railroad Safety  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
2200 N. Central Ave. Suite 300  
Phoenix, AZ. 85004  
602-262-5601  
blehman@azcc.gov

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**From:** AAMAN@up.com [mailto:AAMAN@up.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 08, 2009 4:34 PM  
**To:** Alejandro Angel  
**Cc:** AAMAN@up.com; Rick Robinson; Brian Lehman  
**Subject:** Sahuarita Blvd, Agreement and ACC. RR MP 1000.86, AS & R Main Lead, Sahuarita AZ. DOT 742 177R

Yes, in your application indicate that UPRR and the Town of Sahuarita are finalizing the agreement.

Brain, would you agree that the town can move forward with their application to the ACC as long as the UPRR and the Town are finalizing the agreement?

Thanks.

Aziz Aman P.E.  
Union Pacific Railroad  
2073 E Jade Dr.  
Chandler, AZ. 85286  
Ph: (480) 415 2364  
Fax: (402) 997 3839  
aaman@up.com

For Guidelines & Specifications visit:  
[www.uprr.com/aboutup/operations/specs/index.shtml](http://www.uprr.com/aboutup/operations/specs/index.shtml)

For Utility Exhibits and Guidelines visit:  
[www.uprr.com/reus/pipeline/index.shtml](http://www.uprr.com/reus/pipeline/index.shtml)

For Right of Entry Application visit:  
[www.uprr.com/reus/tempuse/index.shtml#tempprocedures](http://www.uprr.com/reus/tempuse/index.shtml#tempprocedures)

5/11/2009

"Alejandro Angel" <AAngel@psomas.com>

To <AAMAN@up.com>

05/08/2009 06:02 PM

cc "Rick Robinson" <rrobinson@ci.sahuarita.az.us>

Subject RE: Sahuarita Blvd, Agreement and ACC. RR MP 1000.86, AS & R Main Lead, Sahuarita AZ. DOT 742 177R

Aziz, I thought we needed to include the agreement with UPRR with our application to the ACC (per the MCDOT manual). Can we apply pending the agreement?

Thanks

Alejandro

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**From:** AAMAN@up.com [mailto:AAMAN@up.com]

**Sent:** Friday, May 01, 2009 2:14 PM

**To:** Rick Robinson

**Cc:** AAMAN@up.com; Alejandro Angel; Farhad Moghimi; 'Joel Harris'

**Subject:** Sahuarita Blvd, Agreement and ACC. RR MP 1000.86, AS & R Main Lead, Sahuarita AZ. DOT 742 177R

I am expecting the agreement from Omaha within 2 weeks from now. Please consider submitting your application to ACC.

Thanks.

Aziz Aman P.E.  
Union Pacific Railroad  
2073 E Jade Dr.  
Chandler, AZ. 85286  
Ph: (480) 415 2364  
Fax: (402) 997 3839  
aaman@up.com

For Guidelines & Specifications visit:

[www.uprr.com/aboutup/operations/specs/index.shtml](http://www.uprr.com/aboutup/operations/specs/index.shtml)

For Utility Exhibits and Guidelines visit:

[www.uprr.com/reus/pipeline/index.shtml](http://www.uprr.com/reus/pipeline/index.shtml)

For Right of Entry Application visit:

[www.uprr.com/reus/tempuse/index.shtml#tempprocedures](http://www.uprr.com/reus/tempuse/index.shtml#tempprocedures)

**Aziz Aman/UPC**

04/14/2009 11:56 AM

To "Rick Robinson" <rrobinson@ci.sahuarita.az.us>

cc AAMAN@up.com, "Alejandro Angel" <AAngel@psomas.com>, "Farhad Moghimi" <fmoghimi@CI.SAHUARITA.AZ.US>, "Joel Harris" <jtharris@ci.sahuarita.az.us>

Subject Sahuarita Blvd, Signal Estimate. RR MP 1000.86, AS & R Main Lead, Sahuarita AZ. DOT 742 177R [Link](#)

I will trace Omaha and get back to you in 2 weeks.

Thanks.

5/11/2009